

Clean Version of Pending Claims

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2. (Amended twice) The method of Claim 26 wherein the material is a metal alloy having precipitating constituents.
3. (Amended twice) The method of Claim 26 further comprising affixing the heat sink to a die.
5. (Amended) The method of Claim 26 further comprising gradually lowering a temperature of the heat sink to an intermediate temperature prior to said subjecting.
6. (Amended) The method of Claim 26 wherein the heating reduces a number of grain boundaries of the material.
18. (Amended twice) A method comprising:
changing a microstructure of a material of a heat sink from a fine grain to a coarse grain by heating the material to an elevated temperature;
lowering the temperature of the heat sink to a cryogenic temperature; and
immediately bringing the material up to room temperature subsequent to said lowering.
19. (Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising raising the temperature of the heat sink from the cryogenic temperature to a room temperature.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said lowering further comprises initially reducing the temperature of the heat sink to an intermediate temperature above the cryogenic temperature.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising thermally coupling the heat sink to a die.

24. (Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the elevated temperature is greater than 850 degrees Fahrenheit and the cryogenic temperature is approximately -327 degrees Fahrenheit.

25. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein said lowering comprises placing the heat sink in a bath of liquid nitrogen.

26. (Amended) A method comprising:

providing a heat sink of a material having a grain size increased by heating of the material to improve thermal conductivity of the heat sink;

subjecting the heat sink to a cryogenic temperature to strengthen the material; and

immediately bringing the heat sink to room temperature after said subjecting.